

THINK FOOD

School Nutrition Programs

November 2009



USDA FOOD DELIVERY POLICY

The policy for the delivery of USDA Foods to schools can be found on the OPI School Nutrition Food Distribution Web site at: www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/foodDistNEW.html.

Deliveries are to be made Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Deliveries are made once every three weeks and Watkins & Shepard drivers try to keep to a specific schedule. It is the schools responsibility to let the trucker know if your school will be closed on the day your delivery is scheduled to arrive. You will be charged for the shipping if your delivery has to be made a second time.

If you have made arrangements with the driver to accept the delivery after hours it is your responsibility to let them know in advance if that delivery time is not going to work.

The Watkins & Shepard drivers work hard to make the deliveries as convenient as possible so please

work with them to make the deliveries a positive experience.



USDA FOOD ORDERS

The USDA Food order form is now online and you can begin placing your orders. The form along with instructions for using the new form can be found at: www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/foodDistNEW.html. The deadline for ordering is **November 20, 2009**. Contact the OPI Food Distribution office at (406) 444-4415 with questions.

2011 USDA FOOD PROCESSING

Processing has been added to the USDA Food order form as a new food group. The Processing food group has been added to give schools more choices for using their USDA Food dollars.

When ordering processed items you will be purchasing **pounds** of product that will be shipped to the processor. You will then place your orders through your vendor and the product will be shipped and



billed to your school with all of the other items that you purchase. Your USDA Entitlement will be charged for the number of pounds that you purchase. See the enclosed *Processed Food Pilot Program* memo for more details.

The OPI Food Distribution will continue to purchase two trucks of bulk beef to be processed into Charbroiled Beef Patties and Breaded Beef Steaks and two trucks of bulk chicken that will be made into Chicken Patty Tenders. These will be distributed in a fair share method and paid for using the State Match funds. These items can be ordered under the Meat and Poultry Food Groups on the order form. *(RCCI's and private schools will still continue to pay for the processing and shipping of any cases purchased.)*

If you have questions, contact Food Distribution at (406) 444-4415.

USDA DRIED CHERRIES

The dried cherries were temporarily pulled from Shipment 3.

FALL FRUITS AND VEGGIES AVAILABLE THROUGH DoD

DoD says that the new crop apples have started. Late fall and early

winter are great times to try new varieties.

Some new choices available are tangerines, tangelos, and sweet seedless navel oranges.



Cool weather crops such as collards, kale, and cauliflower are reaching their peak and kiwi should be back on the order guides around November.



Kale Chips

12 large kale leaves, rinsed, dried
with center rib removed
1 Tablespoon olive oil
Salt and pepper

Heat oven to 250 degrees.
Toss kale with oil in a large bowl.
Sprinkle with salt and pepper.
Arrange leaves in a single layer on a baking sheet. Bake until crisp, about 30 minutes.

Recipe from the family of Trystan Melas, class 2B, Slingerlands Elementary - School Nutrition Association Daily Mix.

